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LETTER DATED 12 NOVEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I am pleased to transmit herewith a letter dated 12 November 1991 from Mr. Ahmad Hussein, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning a visit made during the first week of the current month by a United Nations delegation, headed by Mr. Abdulrahim A. Farah, to Iran for the second time for the purpose of assessing Iran's losses in the Iraq-Iran war.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 12 November 1991 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

We have learned through the information media that, during the first week of the current month, a United Nations delegation, headed by Mr. Abdulrahim A. Farah, visited Iran for the second time for the purpose of assessing Iran's losses in the Iran-Iraq war, within the framework of the implementation of paragraph 7 of Security Council resolution 598 (1987). Before giving my comments on this visit, I wish to reaffirm to you that Iraq has desired and continues to desire the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), as a peace plan for the purpose of achieving a just, durable and honourable settlement of the dispute between Iraq and Iran.

As I informed you in my letter dated 26 August 1991, the implementation of resolution 598 (1987) has been suspended, and only the cease-fire has been implemented temporarily. It did not hold because Iran violated the cease-fire and intervened militarily by sending hostile saboteur elements across the frontier to destroy Iraq's cities and sabotage its economic structure, exploiting the circumstances through which Iraq was passing as a result of the aggression to which it was subjected on 17 January 1991. Moreover, the return of all prisoners to their countries has not been effected, and thousands of Iraqi prisoners have been suffering the afflictions of imprisonment for a whole decade, far from their families and dear ones.

Iraq has affirmed on many occasions through the rounds of talks and meetings held at Geneva and New York under your auspices, through the visits of your Personal Representative, Ambassador Jan Eliasson, and through Iraq's declared official position that the fragmentation of resolution 598 (1987) and taking up its paragraphs selectively will not bring the two parties to the dispute to the desired settlement.

We believe that the sending of the above-mentioned mission to Iran in these circumstances and the abrupt transition to paragraph 7 of resolution 598 (1987) will lead to responsiveness to Iran's approach aimed at the fragmentation of the resolution and exploitation of the difficult circumstances through which Iraq is passing, in the hope of transforming the nature of the essential content of paragraph 7 so as to serve the Iranian position on the resolution at the expense of the sound implementation of its provisions.

(Signed) Ahmad HUSSEIN
Minister for Foreign Affairs